

**COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)**  
**Kentucky Core Content Test**  
**Content Area Indexes**  
**1999 to 2004**  
**October 13, 2004**

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

Technical considerations in using the October 13, 2004 Release of  
Commonwealth Accountability Testing System (CATS)  
Kentucky Core Content Test  
Content Area Indexes  
1999 to 2004

**NOTE:** The information contained on the files for the Accountability Cycle 2004, School and District Content Area Indexes is embargoed from release until 10:00 a.m. EDT on October 13, 2004.

## CONTENTS

This file contains several sections describing the Kentucky Core Content Test, a component of the Commonwealth Accountability Testing System. The files show School, District and State Academic Index results by content area for years 1998-1999 to 2002-2003.

SectionS:

1. AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS
2. JOINT SCHOOLS
3. CHANGES IN SCHOOL SCORES
4. MODEL LAB SCHOOLS
5. SCHOOLS NOT INCLUDED IN DATA SUMMARY
6. REGIONAL AND STATE SUMMARY DATA
7. SCHOOLS WITH NO ACCOUNTABILITY GRADES
8. REPORT PRINT FILES
9. DATABASE FILES
10. TECHNICAL QUESTIONS

### 1. AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS

Added in 2004. Kentucky's counties are grouped into 15 regions known as Area Development Districts, or ADD's. ADD's are a means by which local elected officials and citizens unite to provide for the planned growth of their area. An ADD is therefore a regional organization that assists in the formulation and implementation of human resource and infrastructure related plans.

**COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)**  
**Kentucky Core Content Test**  
**Content Area Indexes**  
**1999 to 2004**  
**October 13, 2004**

**2. JOINT SCHOOLS**

Joint Schools are school(s) combined with another school for accountability purposes because the school does not contain both a 4th and 5th grade or both a 7th and 8th grade. Each Joint School has a combined record and an individual school record for the schools that comprise the Joint School. The file layouts contain non-reported control fields to assist in sorting, merging and reporting of the Joint Schools.

**3. CHANGES IN SCHOOL DATA**

The results reflect the performance of schools and districts starting with the Spring 1999 test. Although some new schools have been opened, and other schools have closed, results are reported only for schools that were open at the end of the 2002-2003 school year.

**4. MODEL LAB SCHOOLS**

MODEL LAB ELEMENTARY, MODEL LAB MIDDLE SCHOOL, and MODEL LAB HIGH SCHOOL are now included in Madison County totals. The Model Lab schools have a special relationship with Eastern Kentucky University. However, since these schools are technically public schools under the governance of the Madison County Board of Education, the schools are included within the accountability system and school indices are therefore calculated. The schools codes are:

MODEL LAB ELEMENTARY (365450)  
MODEL LAB MIDDLE SCHOOL (365455)  
MODEL LAB HIGH SCHOOL (365460)

**5. SCHOOLS NOT INCLUDED IN DATA SUMMARY**

This data summary includes only schools that are under the governance of a local board of education. Excluded from this summary are the federally dependent schools at Fort Knox and Fort Campbell and the two schools operated by the State Department of Education, the Kentucky School for the Deaf and the Kentucky School for the Blind.

**6. REGIONAL AND STATE SUMMARY DATA**

Region data is not reported. State data is treated as if the individual units are aggregated or summed as is done with individual schools or districts. Index calculations are based on this aggregation of the data. For example, the reading index for the state is no longer the weighted average of the schools from within

**COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)**  
**Kentucky Core Content Test**  
**Content Area Indexes**  
**1999 to 2004**  
**October 13, 2004**

Kentucky, but a calculation based on the total number of students (converted to percents). As is the case for a typical school or district, the reading index would be the sum of:

0 \* percent Novice non-performance +  
13 \* percent Novice medium +  
26 \* percent Novice high +  
40 \* percent Apprentice low +  
60 \* percent Apprentice medium +  
80 \* percent Apprentice high +  
100 \* percent Proficient +  
140 \* percent Distinguished.

### **7. SCHOOLS WITH NO ACCOUNTABILITY GRADES**

Some schools have no grade at which accountability assessment occurs (grades End of Primary {EP or 3}, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12). Schools with no accountability grade will share the accountability results of the schools into which they promote their students. These schools are not included on the printed report or on the databases. National Norm Referenced Test scores are included in the calculations for the Long-Term Accountability model and are reflected in schools that include grades EP(3), 6 or 9.

### **8. REPORT PRINT FILES**

The print files are reported in Portable Document Format (PDF). The files are created using Microsoft Word 2000. To view the document, change to a landscape-viewing format and use a non-proportional font like Courier New, size 8. You may have to make other formatting changes as well including setting the line size to a 8 point.

### **9. DATABASE FILES**

Database files have been developed for use with commercial database or spreadsheet software that recognizes MS-EXCEL (XLS) format. Follow the protocol for your specific software to read and manipulate these files. We have observed that commercial database and spreadsheet software handle variables containing "null" or "missing" data differently. Microsoft Excel and Access, for example, display a string of nine's with a zero in the low order digit.

The files, PRS0405.xls (grades 4/5), PRS0408.xls (grades 7/8), and PRS0412.xls (grades 10/11/12) have the same format.

**COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)**  
**Kentucky Core Content Test**  
**Content Area Indexes**  
**1999 to 2004**  
**October 13, 2004**

FILE  
DESCRIPTION \_\_\_\_\_

PRS04gg.XLS

This file contains content area academic indexes for the years Spring 1999, Spring 2000, Spring 2001, Spring 2002, Spring 2003 and Spring 2004.

Field Name    Field Description

**CODE**        The first three characters are the district number assigned by the Department of Education in data operations. The last three characters are the school building number. The combined record for Joint schools ends in AAA, AAB, AAC, etc. District records have blanks in positions 4 through 6. The state record is assigned a code of 999.

**REGION**     Area Development District Codes  
Kentucky's counties are grouped into 15 regions known as Area Development Districts, or ADD's. ADD's are a means by which local elected officials and citizens unite to provide for the planned growth of their area. An ADD is therefore a regional organization that assists in the formulation and implementation of human resource and infrastructure related plans.  
"01" - Purchase ADD  
"02" - Pennyrile ADD  
"03" - Green River ADD  
"04" - Barren River ADD  
"05" - Lincoln Trail ADD  
"06" - KIPDA ADD (Also encompasses Indiana counties of Clark and Floyd)  
"07" - Northern Kentucky ADD  
"08" - Buffalo Trace ADD  
"09" - Gateway ADD  
"10" - FIVCO ADD  
"11" - Big Sandy ADD  
"12" - Kentucky River ADD  
"13" - Cumberland Valley ADD  
"14" - Lake Cumberland ADD  
"15" - Bluegrass ADD

**DISTNAME** District name

**SCHNAME** School name

**GRADE**        This field contains the accountability grades within the school.  
Values in the field are (left justified):  
"04 " - grade 4 (School is part of a joint school).  
"05 " - grades 5 (School is part of a joint school).  
"04/05" - grades 4/5  
"07 " - grades 7 (School is part of a joint school).  
"08 " - grades 8 (School is part of a joint school).  
"07/08" - grades 7/8  
"10-12" - grades 10/11/12.

**COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)**  
**Kentucky Core Content Test**  
**Content Area Indexes**  
**1999 to 2004**  
**October 13, 2004**

REC\_TYPE Indicator that identifies the type of record. Values are:  
"SCH" = School  
"DST" = District  
"RG" = Region (ADD's)  
"ST" = State

SPLT\_SCH Joint School indicator.  
Values are:  
R = Regular School  
A = Joint School  
Variable is blank in district, region, and state records.

SPLC\_SCH Special (School) code assigned to Joint School.  
Values are:  
RRR = Regular School  
AAA = First Joint school in district  
AAB = Second Joint school in district  
AAC = Third Joint school in district  
etc.  
Variable is blank in district and state records.

SPLT\_TYP Type of Joint School.  
Values are:  
R = Regular School  
A = Joint school - combined school record. Contains result information for the schools that are joined.  
B = Joint school - school component record. Identifies schools that are part of the joint school. Record contains code, school name grade. Accountability data is BLANK.  
Variable is blank in district, region and state records.

NOTE Messages indicating school status.

Possible messages are:  
Blank = no messages; school is normal.  
a = School's service area changed. The school is held accountable through the district accountability scores.  
c = School is accountable though school's scores and district non-academic data for the baseline years.  
d = School is a reconfigured. The school is held accountable through school results and district growth line, district assistance line, and district novice reduction rate.  
e = Reconfigured School or New School in 2002-2003 school year. The school's baseline index is the two-year average of the school's 2002-2001 and 2001-2002 scores but is computed with the district's 2002-2001 and 2001-2002 non-academic index at the corresponding grade level. The goal line, assistance line and novice reduction rate are calculated from the school's scores and district non-academic data for the baseline years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002.  
f = Reconfigured School that is using the District Baseline (goal) for Accountability. School's baseline index, goal line, assistance line and novice reduction rate are based on district scores at the high school level. Due to incomplete non-academic data, district non-academic data are used to calculate the school's non-academic index. This is a special case for new high schools that do not have all grades in the prior year.

**COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)**  
**Kentucky Core Content Test**  
**Content Area Indexes**  
**1999 to 2004**  
**October 13, 2004**

- r = School is considered a reconfigured school and the student population is reconstituted for calculation of accountability scores.
- s = Joint school. School(s) have been combined with another school for accountability purposes because the school does not contain both a 4th and 5th grade or both a 7th and 8th grade.
- w = State Board approved school configuration waiver for calculation of accountability scores.

\* \_\_\_\_\_ SPRING 1999 Academic Indices \_\_\_\_\_ \*

- IDX99\_RD Reading Academic Index - Spring 1999. Format is 8.4.
- IDX99\_MA Mathematics Academic Index - Spring 1999. Format is 8.4.
- IDX99\_SC Science Academic Index - Spring 1999. Format is 8.4.
- IDX99\_SS Social Studies Academic Index - Spring 1999. Format is 8.4.
- IDX99\_AH Arts & Humanities Academic Index - Spring 1999. Format is 8.4.
- IDX99\_PL Practical Living / Vocational Studies Academic Index - Spring 1999. Format is 8.4.
- IDX99\_WR Writing Total (combined On-Demand Writing and Writing Portfolio Academic Index) - Spring 1999. Format is 8.4.
- IDX\_AI99 Total Academic Index - Spring 1999. Format is 5.1.

\* \_\_\_\_\_ SPRING 2000 Academic Indices \_\_\_\_\_ \*

- IDX00\_RD Reading Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 8.4.
- IDX00\_MA Mathematics Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 8.4.
- IDX00\_SC Science Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 8.4.
- IDX00\_SS Social Studies Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 8.4.
- IDX00\_AH Arts & Humanities Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 8.4.
- IDX00\_PL Practical Living / Vocational Studies Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 8.4.
- IDX00\_WR Writing Total (combined On-Demand Writing and Writing Portfolio) Academic Index -Spring 2000. Format is 8.4.
- IDX\_AI00 Total Academic Index - Spring 2000. Format is 5.1.

**COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)**  
**Kentucky Core Content Test**  
**Content Area Indexes**  
**1999 to 2004**  
**October 13, 2004**

\* \_\_\_\_\_ SPRING 2001 Academic Indices \_\_\_\_\_ \*

- IDX01\_RD Reading Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 8.4.
- IDX01\_MA Mathematics Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 8.4.
- IDX01\_SC Science Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 8.4.
- IDX01\_SS Social Studies Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 8.4.
- IDX01\_AH Arts & Humanities Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 8.4.
- IDX01\_PL Practical Living / Vocational Studies Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 8.4.
- IDX01\_WR Writing Total (combined On-Demand Writing and Writing Portfolio) Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 8.4.
- IDX\_AI01 Total Academic Index - Spring 2001. Format is 5.1.

\* \_\_\_\_\_ SPRING 2002 Academic Indices \_\_\_\_\_ \*

- IDX02\_RD Reading Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 8.4.
- IDX02\_MA Mathematics Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 8.4.
- IDX02\_SC Science Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 8.4.
- IDX02\_SS Social Studies Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 8.4.
- IDX02\_AH Arts & Humanities Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 8.4.
- IDX02\_PL Practical Living / Vocational Studies Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 8.4.
- IDX02\_WR Writing Total (combined On-Demand Writing and Writing Portfolio) Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 8.4.
- IDX\_AI02 Total Academic Index - Spring 2002. Format is 5.1.

\* \_\_\_\_\_ SPRING 2003 Academic Indices \_\_\_\_\_ \*

- IDX03\_RD Reading Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 8.4.
- IDX03\_MA Mathematics Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 8.4.
- IDX03\_SC Science Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 8.4.
- IDX03\_SS Social Studies Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 8.4.

**COMMONWEALTH ACCOUNTABILITY TESTING SYSTEM (CATS)**  
**Kentucky Core Content Test**  
**Content Area Indexes**  
**1999 to 2004**  
**October 13, 2004**

- IDX03\_AH Arts & Humanities Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 8.4.
- IDX03\_PL Practical Living / Vocational Studies Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 8.4.
- IDX03\_WR Writing Total (combined On-Demand Writing and Writing Portfolio) Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 8.4.
- IDX\_AI03 Total Academic Index - Spring 2003. Format is 5.1.

\* \_\_\_\_\_ SPRING 2004 Academic Indices \_\_\_\_\_ \*

- IDX04\_RD Reading Academic Index - Spring 2004. Format is 8.4.
- IDX04\_MA Mathematics Academic Index - Spring 2004. Format is 8.4.
- IDX04\_SC Science Academic Index - Spring 2004. Format is 8.4.
- IDX04\_SS Social Studies Academic Index - Spring 2004. Format is 8.4.
- IDX04\_AH Arts & Humanities Academic Index - Spring 2004. Format is 8.4.
- IDX04\_PL Practical Living / Vocational Studies Academic Index - Spring 2004. Format is 8.4.
- IDX04\_WR Writing Total (combined On-Demand Writing and Writing Portfolio) Academic Index - Spring 2004. Format is 8.4.
- IDX\_AI04 Total Academic Index - Spring 2004. Format is 5.1.

**10. TECHNICAL QUESTIONS**

Technical questions about the data format may be addressed to:

Roger W. Ervin  
Office of Assessment and Accountability,  
Division of Assessment Implementation

Telephone: (502) 564-4394  
FAX: (502) 564-7749  
Internet mail: [rervin@kde.state.ky.us](mailto:rervin@kde.state.ky.us)